

It is unconscionable that Sinclair Broadcasting is forcing its stations to air a blatantly political anti-Kerry documentary 2 weeks before the elections.

If Sinclair wants to open their airwaves to political speech, they should also air a more balanced view, such as "Going Upriver", immediately after.

Sinclair's manipulation of its stations schedules and political agendas is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you.